Health Information Technology Grant Opportunities Presentation by Liza Fox, Governor's Office of Policy and Initiatives

- The Colorado Regional Health Information Organization (CORHIO) has been identified by the governor as the designated entity for HITECH funds in the ARRA law.
- CORHIO is working to assure that all federal funds are maximized to benefit all Coloradans.
- There are two recent activities that have occurred that related to ARRA HITECH:
 - o 1. Statewide Health Information Exchange activity and
 - o 2. Regional Extension Center activity

1. Statewide HIE Activity:

- On behalf of the state, CORHIO has updated the Statewide HIE Plan which is posted on the CORHIO website under the ARRA section. This was a requirement to submit for State HIE Funds and the plan was approved by the public/private board governing CORHIO. The plan identifies the public activities and needs for health information exchange and interoperability
- \$9.176 million is expected to be available for Colorado over a four-year period to build out the HIE infrastructure needed to make electronic health care systems interoperable.
- Application submitted on October 16th
 - o Included Statewide HIE Strategic Plan
 - Will deliver Operational Plan to Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) about January/February
- Award Announcement expected January 15th
- ONC must approve Operational Plan before federal funds may be used for implementation
- 2. Regional Extension Center Activity:
- Competitive Federal Program in three waves of awards
 - o 70 preliminary applications
 - o 55 invited to submit full proposals (including CO)
 - o 20 slots in first wave of awards
- Regional Extension Centers are self-defined geographic areas, and they will provide direct on-site technical assistance services including:
 - Selecting and Purchasing EHR
 - o Implementation and Project Management
 - o Workflow Redesign
 - o Progress toward "Meaningful Use" of EHR
- Technical assistance will be targeted to primary care providers with prescribing privileges
- CORHIO applied as lead-agency for seven partner agencies with existing experience in delivering these types of services. Partner agencies are:

- ClinicNet an organization representing non-federally qualified health centers
- o Colorado Clinical Guidelines Collaborative
- o Colorado Community Health Network
- o Colorado Foundation for Medical Care
- o Colorado Hospital Association
- o Colorado Rural Health Center
- Physician Health Partners
- Application included letters of intent and support covering over 500 priority providers
- Other organizations supporting the application include:
 - o Colorado Area Health Education Centers
 - o Colorado Medical Society
 - o Colorado Behavioral Health Council
 - o COPIC
- Estimate award date Dec. 15th
- If Colorado is not awarded, the application will be revised and re-submitted for approval in the March round.